

28 DIE IN BOSTON LODGING HOUSE FIRE

Doors to Escapes Locked
and Trapped Victims
Are Roasted Alive.

ABLE TO IDENTIFY
ONLY ONE CORPSE

Bodies So Charred as To Be
Unrecognizable — Eight
Probes Under Way.

Boston, Dec. 3.—Twenty-eight men were burned to death in a fire which swept the upper floors of the Arcadia Hotel, a cheap lodging house in the South End, early this morning.

Eight separate investigations of the fire are under way.

Some of the doors leading to the fire escapes are said to have been locked, and unable to break them open the men were either roasted alive or killed by jumping from the windows and roof. Only one of the victims has been identified and some of the bodies are so charred that identification will be impossible.

The manager of the lodging house was summoned before the Board of Health only two days ago and warned to enforce the regulations prohibiting smoking in the rooms.

The victims of the fire were men in poor circumstances who had resorted to the place for a night's lodging. Many of them were negroes. Caught in the crowded bunks on the top floor of the five-story brick building and in the small rooms on the fourth floor, they were helpless.

When they were aroused the stairways were in flames and there was a mad rush for the fire-escapes at the rear. Practically all the men were naked.

Many were rescued by the firemen and police. Fifty escaped by walking a shaky plank stretched to an adjoining building or jumping across a five-foot alley to neighboring roofs.

The property loss is estimated at \$30,000. The Arcadia was located at the corner of Washington and Lagoon streets. The lower floors were occupied by stores.

The fire apparently started, no one knows how, in a hallway closet on the second floor. The flames swept up the wooden stairways and burned through the roof.

According to William Walsh, the night clerk, there were 178 lodgers in the building when the fire was discovered by a passing newsboy. After turning in an alarm he rushed into the building, awakening the men with his shouts.

The top floor was a large room, filled with cots and bunks. On the fourth floor, where the loss of life was heaviest, there were thirty tiny rooms, like cells, with two cots in each. A hallway ran through the center. Nearly all those occupying rooms on the front of the building perished.

The men in the rear rooms, opening on the fire escapes, had locked the doors when they went to bed, and those in front were unable to reach the fire escapes.

When the firemen arrived flames were shooting twenty feet in the air and the fire escapes and the roof were a mass of smoking, struggling humanity. Despite shouts of assurance from below, three men jumped from the roof. Two were instantly killed. The third, who had wrapped a mattress about himself, escaped with a few bruises.

Life nets were quickly stretched by the firemen, and many were rescued in this manner. Others were taken down ladders, with the flames sweeping about them.

It was nearly an hour after the firemen arrived before they were able to enter the lodging house. The first man to ascend a smoking ladder shouted: "My God, boys, that place is littered with dead."

Most important of the day's inquiries was that begun by the Suffolk County Grand Jury. Directed by District Attorney Joseph C. Pelletier, the jury men paid a visit to the hotel while the ruins were still smoldering. They saw the remains of cots laid side by side in a general dormitory on the fifth floor, and narrow, boxlike rooms on floors below, in which privacy was obtained by inmates for a few cents more than was paid by the dormitory occupants.

The cause of the fire was not determined.

A large quantity of painter's materials, District Attorney Pelletier said, was found in a closet on the second floor, but apparently it had not been touched by the flames.

Later the jury went to the City Hospital morgue, and other lodging houses in the vicinity were afterward inspected by the jury in order to see how those houses were conducted in reference to the safety of the occupants at night.

Other investigations were the official inquiry by Medical Examiner Leary, inquiries by the Fire Commissioner, the Building Commissioner and the Board of Health, the City Police Department, the State Police, and personal research by Mayor Fitzgerald.

The Arcadia Hotel was conducted by the Lyons Hotel Company, which has a chain of lodging houses in the big East-end cities. W. H. and J. D. Lyons compose the company, which owns seven other lodging houses here and fifteen in New York, Brooklyn, Newark and Jersey City.

Joseph G. Lyons, of Brooklyn, president of the firm, believes that the fire started under the stairs in the main hallway.

"Within a few months three other mysterious fires have been discovered there," he said. "This fire was undoubtedly set."

Search of the dead developed little to assist in identification. It revealed the financial circumstances of the men when only \$1.47 was gathered from the effects of all the victims.

CHAIN OF 600 HOTELS

Lyons's Lodging Houses Can
Accommodate 120,000 Men.

The owners of the Arcadia, the Boston lodging house in which twenty-eight lives were lost yesterday, control six hundred cheap hotels and lodging houses throughout the country. It is estimated that in the various establishments there are accommodations for 120,000 men.

Of the chain of lodging houses, eight are in New York and six in Brooklyn. The New York houses are the Nassau, No. 275 Bowery; the Newport, No. 80 Bowery; the Eagle, No. 28 Bowery; the Alabama, No. 219 Bowery; the Boston, No. 106 Bowery; the Senate, No. 5 Bowery; the Windsor, No. 258 Bowery; and the Cleveland House, No. 122 Park Row.

In Brooklyn are the Metropolitan, No. 251 Pearl street; the Columbia, No. 259 Fulton street; the Concord, No. 223 Ful-

ton street; the Lenox, No. 42 Fulton street; the New Brooklyn, No. 25 Fulton street; the Henry, at Henry and Fulton streets. The Brooklyn houses are under the supervision of Nathan Lyons, a brother of Joseph G. Lyons.

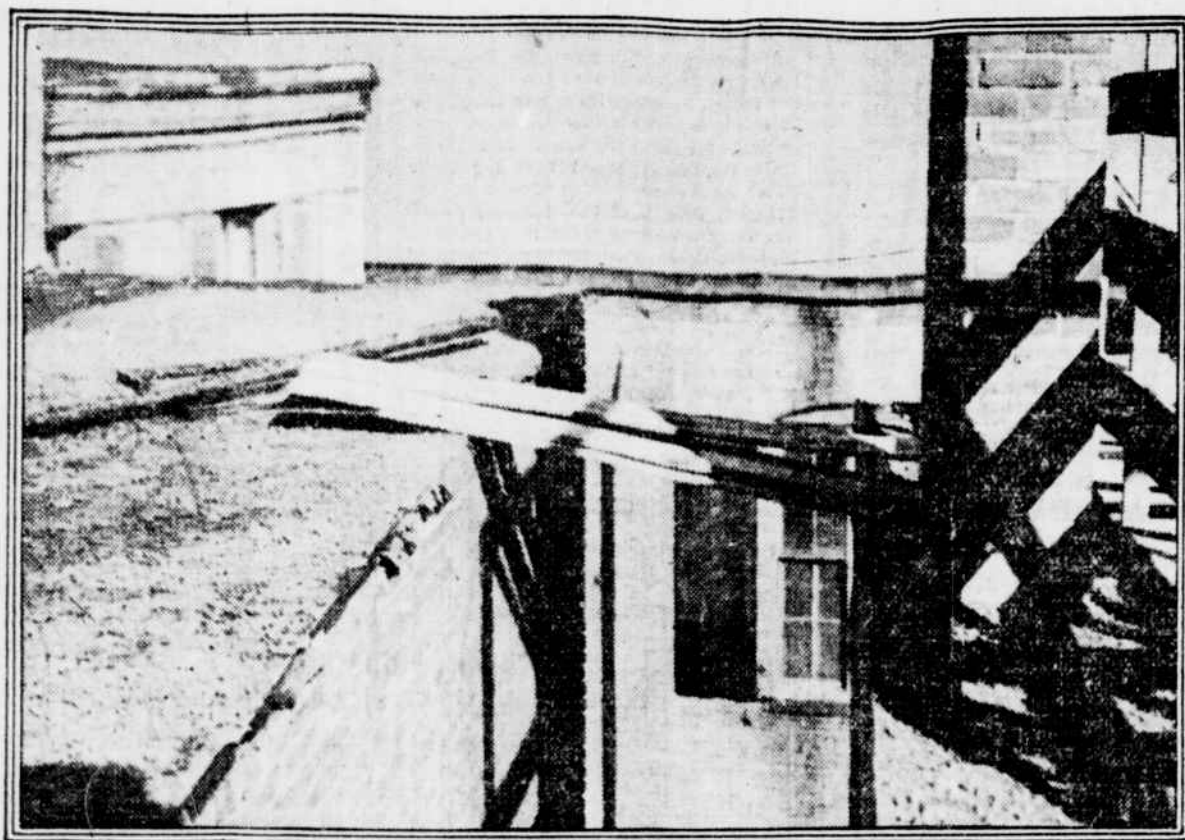
The price for a bed for the night ranges from 15 to 25 cents. Most of the Brooklyn houses are built of brick and are modern in plan. The New York places are housed in older quarters and are in many cases above small stores. Entrance to the lodging houses is had by means of narrow stairways, which in some cases are built at sharp angles.

There was a fire in the Boston fifteen years ago when it was the Bowery Mission lodging house. Sixteen persons were burned to death. It was at that fire Chief Croker, then a captain, gained fame. He rescued ten persons.

Joseph G. Lyons makes his headquarters at the Newport. He lives in Brooklyn, but comes to New York to make his collections.

SCENE OF THE FATAL BOSTON FIRE.

Fifty men walked to safety on the plank shown in the picture.



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HOMeward RUSH EARLY

Liners Leave England with Big
Passenger Lists.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Dec. 3.—The White Star liner Olympic and the North German Lloyd liner Kaiser Wilhelm II sailed westward to-day with unusually big passenger lists for this time of the year. There was quite a crowd at Waterloo this morning. A hundred or more women and men, including "Jim" Larkin, of fiery Cross notoriety, were there to give a send-off to George Lansbury, the Socialist ex-M. P., who recently had a term in prison for his suffrage activities. Americans in this crowd waving the Stars and Stripes attracted some comment.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sanford, with their daughters, were among the Olympic's passengers. Mr. Sanford has been here since June, racing in France and buying blooded horses, with a view to selecting some of the best for his stables in Amsterdam and New York.

Imre Kralffy, director-General of the Anglo-American Exposition to be held here next year, said that expectations were splendid. So many requests had been received from American exhibitors that he had been obliged to quadruple the space allotments in many instances. He wants to get Buffalo Bill for the exposition.

Senator and Mrs. George T. Oliver, of Pennsylvania, who have been in London for the last ten days, stopping at the Carlton, after two months in Constantinople visiting their daughter, Mrs. Edward McCauley, wife of Commander McCauley, were also passengers on the boat train.

Miss Julie Opp, who has been recuperating in Switzerland, sailed to spend Christmas with her husband, William Faversham, Colonel William G. Kable, who has been for two months in Italy, investigating military matters, but who says he learned nothing new for Americans, was also on the Olympic train. He took twenty-six Pekinese dogs with him for the New York Dog Show.

Later the jury went to the City Hospital morgue, and other lodging houses in the vicinity were afterward inspected by the jury in order to see how those houses were conducted in reference to the safety of the occupants at night.

Other investigations were the official inquiry by Medical Examiner Leary, inquiries by the Fire Commissioner, the Building Commissioner and the Board of Health, the City Police Department, the State Police, and personal research by Mayor Fitzgerald.

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WADSWORTH ROGERS DISAPPEARS IN PARIS

Not Seen Since Saturday—Was
to Have Gone South Same
Day with Mother.

Paris, Dec. 3.—Wadsworth Rogers, a nephew of former Congressman James W. Wadsworth, of New York and Washington, has disappeared, and a search is being made for him throughout France. Last Saturday morning he walked out of the hotel where he and his mother were staying, and has not been seen or heard of since. His mother is greatly distressed, but clings to the hope that he may have been taken to some hospital and is being cared for there.

Mrs. Rogers says that her son's health was delicate and that he suffered from occasional spells of melancholia. He was seemingly in his usual spirits on Saturday, and had arranged to go with his mother to their chateau, near Pau, that afternoon. Their baggage had already been packed for the journey.

Mr. Rogers is very well known in Paris. He has spent much of his time in France, in connection with his racing stable. He is about forty years old and unmarried.

OBJECT TO SEAMEN'S BILL

British Commercial Bodies
Hope It Won't Be Enacted.

London, Dec. 3.—Great Britain has made pressing representations in Washington as the result of activities of the chambers of commerce of the United Kingdom to secure the postponement of the passage of the seamen's bill until after the conclusion of the International Conference on Safety at Sea. Failing a postponement of the measure, modification of the provisions of the bill will be urged by the British government.

The report reached here that the seamen's bill, which passed the Senate at Washington in October, was likely soon to go through the House of Representatives as well.

"We are going to search along the north shore of the bay, and make inquiries among the people of that district," said Mrs. Lavelle. "After doing this we will take a motor boat and make a final search of the bay, which district will be thoroughly dragged to-day."

"I shall return to Toronto to-night, and my address while there will be No. 165 Walmer Road, where I will be stopping with my relatives. If any one has any information concerning my husband I will be pleased to have them wire me at that address after to-night."

Mrs. Lavelle is still hopeful that her husband is alive.

PROPOSES FRENCH TREATY

American Chamber of Com-
merce in Paris is Sponsor.

Paris, Dec. 3.—A new Franco-American treaty, designed to avoid double taxation of Americans residing in France and of Frenchmen residing in the United States, in connection with the new income taxes of the two countries, was recommended by the American Chamber of Commerce at a meeting here to-day. The suggestion has aroused considerable interest in Paris. Recommendations on the subject will be sent to President Wilson and the Department of State.

The chamber also approved the suggestion made in the United States that commercial attaches should be accredited to the embassies abroad for the purpose of developing foreign trade, and that larger means should be placed at the disposal of the Department of Commerce for the same purpose.

A QUEENSTOWN PROTEST

Mauretania in 1907-'12 Always
Entered Irish Port.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Dec. 4.—In the course of a letter on the subject of American mails and Queenstown the secretary of the Cork Harbor Commissioners contends that the Cunard liners Mauretania, on November 9, and Lusitania, on November 23, could with absolute safety have entered the harbor and embarked the mails. He adds that for more than half a century the American mails have gone via Queenstown and that there was never a case of the mails being left at Queenstown until last September.

The Lusitania and the Mauretania since 1907 and up to quite recently, he adds, habitually entered the harbor in all kinds of weather and at all states of the tide and embarked mails and passengers without difficulty, and that if the truth were known it would probably be found that the real reason why the mails had been left behind at Queenstown was the desire of the Cunard company to pass without calling for the failure to embark the mails did not arise from any difficulty in entering the harbor.

Senator and Mrs. George T. Oliver, of Pennsylvania, who have been in London for the last ten days, stopping at the Carlton, after two months in Constantinople visiting their daughter, Mrs. Edward McCauley, wife of Commander McCauley, were also passengers on the boat train.

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DE LA BARRA OFF TO JAPAN ON MISSION FOR HUERTA

Leaves Paris Suddenly on Re-
ceipt of Orders—Young Diaz
for Minister to Tokio.

Paris, Dec. 3.—Francisco de la Barra, former Provisional President of Mexico, and who has been Mexican Minister to France for several months, left suddenly to-day for Japan, on the receipt of orders from General Huerta. He will travel by way of Germany, Russia and Siberia.

Señor de la Barra's visit to the Orient, it was said at the Mexican Legation here this afternoon, would be simply one of courtesy to thank the Japanese government for its participation in the Mexican centenary celebrations. Enrique Olart, Counselor of Legation, who has assumed charge of Mexican interests here, expects Señor de la Barra to return to Paris in three months.

Manuel Garza Aldape, who recently resigned the portfolio of Minister of the Interior in General Huerta's provisional government, arrived here to-day from Mexico, by way of Santander, Spain. His presence in Paris seemingly has no relation to the change in the Mexican Legation.

Porfirio Diaz, Jr., son of the ex-President of Mexico, is being talked about in Mexican circles here as the probable Mexican Minister to Japan.

DRAG BAY FOR LAVELLE

Wife, Still Hopeful, Out in Boat
as Thorough Search Is Made.

(By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Hamilton, Ontario, Dec. 3.—The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Professor Lavelle, formerly of Columbia University, is just as perplexing as it was ten days ago, when he was last seen going out in a rowboat on the bay.

Relatives, assisted by the police and detectives, are continuing the search in Buffalo, Chicago and Toronto. Mrs. Lavelle, the brave little wife of the missing man, was interviewed by a correspondent for The Tribune at the King George Hotel. Accompanied by relatives, she was just leaving the hotel in an automobile.

"We are going to search along the north shore of the bay, and make inquiries among the people of that district," said Mrs. Lavelle. "After doing this we will take a motor boat and make a final search of the bay, which district will be thoroughly dragged to-day."

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BONES OF AMERICANS

SHOT BY SPAIN FOUND

Exploit of Col. Crittenden and
His 50 Kentuckians Recalled
by Opening of Trench.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Havana, Dec. 3.—The Cuban government has discovered the graves of Colonel William Crittenden and his fifty Kentuckians, who were executed in 1851.

The remains were discovered after the government had exploded a charge of dynamite on the hillside of the ancient Atares fort, this having been ordered for the purpose of erecting some stables. A soldier called the attention of an officer to some bones. An excavation immediately undertaken resulted in the discovery of many more bones. All the heads were found lying northward and close together, showing that the men had been buried in the trench simultaneously.

The bones were naturally in bad condition, but physicians estimate that those found represent at least fifteen men. The bones have been carefully gathered up and placed in a handsome coffin. The excavation is continuing.

Local antiquaries are convinced that the hill is the place of burial of Colonel Crittenden and his followers, who formed the remnants of the famous Narciso Lopez expedition. Their fate has always been a mystery. The only fact known is that they were shot standing, as they refused to kneel "except to God."

Afterward the bodies were exhibited on carts through the streets of Havana and were later buried near the Atares fort. The place of burial was kept secret because the Spaniards feared the bodies would be claimed by the United States. Of late years several efforts have been made to locate the remains for the purpose of showing honors to the dead, but all efforts heretofore have been unavailing.

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KAISER APPROVES ZABERN TROOPS

Minister of War Acts as
Emperor's Mouthpiece
in Reichstag.

SITUATION IN ALSACE
FAILS TO IMPROVE

Resolution of Non-Approval of
Government Likely To Be
Voted To-day.

Berlin, Dec. 3.—Coming direct from Donaueschingen, where he had a conference with the Emperor on Sunday, the German War Minister, Major General Erich von Falkenhayn, delivered a vigorous speech in the Reichstag to-day on the interpretation regarding the disturbed conditions at Zabern in Alsace. His speech was devoted almost entirely to defending the action of the military at that town, where the army officers have on several occasions used strong measures to check disorders.

General von Falkenhayn was constantly interrupted with expressions of disapproval from all parties in the Chamber, with the sole exception of the Conservatives. He followed the Imperial Chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, who was apparently endeavoring to steer a middle course between the military and civilian interests.

The Imperial Chancellor's speech likewise was constantly interrupted. He criticized Lieutenant Baron von Forstner, of the 9th Infantry, at Zabern, for his use of the word "rowdy" and for the reflections he had made upon the French Foreign Legion. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg admitted that the officers at Zabern had exceeded their authority by taking possession of the town on November 23 and arresting civilians, but he pleaded that their action undoubtedly had averted worse consequences. Major General von Falkenhayn later intimated that these "consequences" would have been the army officers would have been forced to run their swords through the insulting civilians in order to protect the honor of the "king's coat."

The situation at Zabern meanwhile has not improved, and the Imperial Chancellor did not make any announcement as to the measures to be taken to put an end to the conflict. He criticized both the soldiers and the citizens, and said a way must be found for the garrison and the inhabitants to live in harmony, but he gave no indication as to whether the offending officers were to be transferred or punished in any way, or as to what steps were to be taken to avert further incidents.

From the Imperial Chancellor's remarks and General von Falkenhayn's uncompromising attitude it was deduced that the Emperor supports the conduct of the Zabern garrison fully. Representatives of all parties, however, except the Conservatives bitterly attacked the action of the military men. The Clerical Herr Feiler declared it a shame that the efforts of forty years toward reconciliation had been rendered null.

The Alsatian National Liberal delegate, Dr. von Calker, professor of law at Strasbourg University, declared that his work of sixteen years toward reconciling the anti-German elements had been utterly undone by the government's attitude.

The progressives proposed a vote of non-approval of the government. This was seconded by representatives of all parties, with the exception of the Conservatives, and a vote will be taken on Thursday. The indications are that it will be passed by a very large majority.

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